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# The Chemawa American

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## KEEP THE PACE

One of the most encouraging features in the progress of Chemawa students is a tendency to reach out and take the initiative in things connected with the school. This one tendency means much in their ultimate independence. Independence and self-reliance must always be cultivated before success can be reached, and many of our students are taking steps in that direction.

The various organizations at Chemawa are largely organized by the students themselves and run by them alone. This is an ambition with them and gives them an opportunity to use their own individuality and to develop independence of thought and action. The fact that results depend upon the students give them a sense of the importance of success and renders them ambitious to excel. There is quite a field for them to exert their powers and it requires some nerve and energy to back up an ambition. The "get together" spirit among the larger students at Chemawa is fine, which promotes cultivation of the qualities of self-reliance and individuality and prompts them to reach out for things worth while. It has the effect of eliminating a desire to drift along with no high purpose in view, and accelerates an ambition to acquire the ability to get on in the world. A self-satisfied, drifting-along-from-day-to-day pace, is a poor way of going through school and one which is of no advantage in the end. But to be wide awake to the opportunities for advancement will open higher endeavors and render the independence of thought gained thereby, as well as the quality of being able to take the initiative, a stepping stone to complete success. Keep up the pace!

## WINNERS

The winners everywhere, in any line of work, the Indian students who really make good, are the ones who never abandon their task, no matter how difficult, until it is finished right. The ones who tire easily and are quickly discouraged have neither heart nor strength to carry the task to completion. The prizes and the things worth while are invariably secured by the students who do not "quit" before completing a job properly, and whose only idea of doing is to do it all, and right.

## DO YOUR OWN THINKING

There are leaders in every school. This is due to some one's personality or attraction. We admire the fellow whose influence is felt thus for good, but condemn the one who bears a wrong influence; and for the ones who follow a leader against their own desires we have only contempt. The best way to guard against ourselves at all times is to do our own thinking and act in accordance therewith. It has been very noticeable in schools like ours that a goodly number of the students do not have the courage to stand among their fellows for their own convictions. They fear being called odd, or eccentric, and are not brave enough to stand the momentary taunts of their companions. But this question must appeal to us: Does it pay in the long run? Do your own thinking.

## RELIABILITY

The first and foremost quality desirable in a student is that of being dependable. Unless the student is the sort to carry out directions to the best of his ability, he is practically doomed to failure. He may not be a fast workman, he may be ignorant as to the proper method of working. These requisites can be learned, and it is our business as instructors to train students, but if he is unreliable, a shirk, and requires a task-master to give personal oversight to keep him at his job, he bids fair to take his place among the rubbish of the world, for unless he shows a disposition to help himself in the industrial work, even though he may be apt at learning, the time and money spent on him is wasted, and such waste betokens an unsuccessful career, not only while at school, but always. Too much emphasis cannot be put on the necessity of taking every advantage of opportunities to form correct habits, and the habit of being dependable is without doubt so essential in the education of our Indian youth that it calls for the highest loyalty of all. In fact it is the primary duty of every instructor to inculcate this fundamental need constantly. It is the principle on which success rests, and the American cannot urge our students too strongly to accept responsibility, to be true to themselves, to work for construction of character and reliability. It is by reference to these qualities that an adequate basis for a successful life can be maintained.